

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 123896
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H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123896

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, TU, CY, GW

SUBJECT:ECEVIT VISIT TO BONN: CYPRUS ASPECTS

1. FRG EMBASSY COUNSELOR SCHAUER CALLED ON DEPARTMENT
COUNSELOR NIMETZ MAY 15 ON INSTRUCTION TO PASS ON FRG IM-
PRESSIONS OF TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S RECENT VISIT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 123896

TO BONN. SCHAUER NOTED THAT SIMILAR APPROACHES WERE BEING
MADE TO U.N., IN EC-9 MEMBER STATE CAPITALS, AND IN NICOSIA
AND ATHENS.

2. SCHAUER SAID THAT THE FRG HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE
SERIOUSNESS OF ECEVIT'S INTENT TO IMPROVE GREEK-TURKISH RE-
LATIONS AND WITH HIS READINESS TO MAKE CONCESSIONS ON THE

CYPRUS ISSUE. HE SEEMED FULLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF A SOUND GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP IF THE ALLIANCE'S SOUTH-EASTERN FLANK WAS TO BE SOLIDIFIED. SCHAUER SAID THAT THE GERMAN SIDE HAD TOLD ECEVIT THAT THEY DID NOT FIND THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS OF APRIL 13 TO BE VERY SATISFYING, AND THEY HAD URGED ON HIM THE NEED TO DEMONSTRATE HIS PROMISED FLEXIBILITY ESPECIALLY ON THE SENSITIVE QUESTION OF VAROSHA. THE TURKISH SIDE HAD IN TURN ELUCIDATED THE APRIL 13 PROPOSALS AND HAD UNDERScoreD THEIR READINESS TO NEGOTIATE IN EARNEST ONCE THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS WERE RE-CONVENED.

3. SCHAUER DREW ATTENTION TO THE PRESS BRIEFING ECEVIT HAD GIVEN PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM BONN, IN WHICH HE HAD RE-ITERATED TURKISH READINESS TO PERMIT UP TO 35,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS TO RETURN TO VAROSHA AND HAD STRESSED THAT A TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE LOOKED AT FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF THE TWO ZONES RATHER THAN PERCENTAGES AS SUCH. ECEVIT HAD ALSO SAID THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD INDICATED THAT THE FUTURE POLITICAL FRAMEWORK OF VAROSHA WAS OPEN TO DISCUSSION. THE FRG, SCHAUER NOTED, CONSIDERED THIS LATTER STATEMENT OF ECEVIT'S TO REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD, AND ON THIS BASIS THEY HAD REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD NOW INVITE THE PARTIES TO A NEW ROUND OF TALKS.

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PAGE 03 STATE 123896

4. NIMETZ SAID THAT WE SHARED THE FRG PERCEPTION THAT ECEVIT WAS SINCERE IN HIS DESIRE FOR NEGOTIATIONS. WE LIKEWISE FELT THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER. ECEVIT'S CLARIFICATION ON VAROSHA WAS USEFUL AND COULD POSSIBLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH WALDHEIM. NIMETZ EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE TURKS TO DO SOMETHING DRAMATIC IF CONGRESSIONAL OPINION WAS TO BE SWUNG IN FAVOR OF REPEALING THE ARMS EMBARGO. SMALL STEPS WOULD NOT SUFFICE. IN RESPONSE TO NIMETZ' QUESTION, SCHAUER SAID IT WAS ALSO THE GERMAN IMPRESSION THAT THE TURKS WANTED NO OUTSIDE HELP ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE, NOR WOULD THEY REACT POSITIVELY TO PRESSURE.

5. NIMETZ REVIEWED BRIEFLY WHERE WE NOW STOOD WITH REGARD TO THE ARMS EMBARGO AND THE PROSPECTS FOR RESUMING CYPRUS TALKS. HE NOTED THAT THE SFRC VOTE ON MAY 11 COULD HAVE BEEN CLOSER HAD THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP VOTED; WE FELT THAT WE COULD HAVE HAD SEVEN AND POSSIBLY EIGHT VOTES. A MAXIMUM EFFORT WOULD NOW BE MADE ON THE HILL FOLLOWING THE VOTE ON MIDDLE EAST AIRCRAFT SALES. NIMETZ SAID THAT IT WAS HIS VIEW THAT THE ADMINISTRATION STOOD A BETTER CHANCE ON THE SENATE THAN ON THE HOUSE FLOOR, WHERE POLITICAL

CONSIDERATIONS WERE NATURALLY MORE PROMINENT IN AN ELECTION YEAR. IF THE TURKS HAD GIVEN US SOMETHING MORE FORTHCOMING IN THE WAY OF CYPRUS PROPOSALS, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN IN A FAR BETTER POSITION. WITH REGARD TO RECONVENING THE NEGOTIATIONS, NIMETZ TOOK NOTE OF WALDHEIM'S INNATE CAUTION, BASED ON EARLIER FAILURES, AND SPECULATED THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL MIGHT IN ANY CASE NOT WANT TO CALL FOR NEW TALKS UNTIL THE CONGRESS HAD VOTED ON THE ARMS EMBARGO. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WALDHEIM WERE ABLE TO EXTRACT SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT FROM ECEVIT DURING THE NATO SUMMIT/SSOD PERIOD, THEN AN EARLIER RESUMPTION OF TALKS WAS NOT TO BE EXCLUDED. NIMETZ ADDED THAT, IN HIS VIEW, THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD

GET A BETTER DEAL BY AGREEING TO NEGOTIATE NOW THAN THEY
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PAGE 04 STATE 123896

COULD EVER HAVE GOTTEN IN THE PAST OR PROBABLY WOULD GET
IN THE FUTURE. VANCE

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